

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 00075 141718Z

61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 (ISO)W

----- 102157

R 141702Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1872

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0075

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, FR

SUBJECT: PHILIPPE KOENIG, NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR
TO NORWAY

REF: PARIS 897

1. WE WOULD ADD FOLLOWING PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF KOENIG TO DATA CONTAINED REFTEL. HE IS AN UNUSUALLY DECENT, FRIENDLY PERSON, MUCH LIKED BY HIS STAFF. THOUGHTFUL AND CONSIDERATE OF EVERYONE AROUND HIM, HE WAS VERY POPULAR HERE IN BERLIN. HE IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE US, UNDERSTANDS AND WORKS COMPATIBLY WITH AMERICANS (THIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CASE IN HAITI AND CERTAINLY WAS TRUE IN BERLIN). FRENCH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DESTREMAU PLACED DURING RECENT DINNER HERE ON FACT THAT KOENIG HAD MADE NO PARTICULAR EFFORT TO GET A NEW ASSIGNMENT; HE HAD ASKED AND HOPED FOR ONE, BUT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SURPRISED TO BE RETIRED. HE WAS PLEASED BY OSLO APPOINTMENT WHICH WAS ARRANGED BY HIS MANY FRIENDS IN PARIS, INCLUDING FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES, WHO PERSONALLY TOLD HIM OF DECISION SEND HIM TO OSLO.

2. KOENIG IS NOT FORCEFUL, NOT A HARD-CHARGER, BUT HE IS REASONABLE, CURIOUS AND BLESSED WITH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 00075 141718Z

COMMON SENSE. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND

GERMAN. AS HIS BIO DATA SUGGESTS, HIS EXPERTISE IS REALLY IN GERMAN AFFAIRS, ESPECIALLY SINCE HIS FAMILY ORIGINATED IN THE SAAR AND HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH GERMANY FOR A CENTURY. KOENIG ALSO STUDIED AT FREIBURG BEFORE THE WAR. HE WROTE HIS DOCTORAL THESIS ON GERMAN (NAZI) USE OF PUBLIC WORKS AS AN ANTI-DEPRESSION ECONOMIC MEASURE. HE APPRECIATES THE "BONNE CHERE", IS A WARM AND CONVIVIAL HOST, AND ENJOYS TENNIS.

3. THE KOENIGS ARE A CLOSE FAMILY, THE CHILDREN OCCUPYING THEIR PARIS APARTMENT. MADAME KOENIG, WARM AND FRIENDLY LIKE HER HUSBAND, DOES NOT SPEAK MUCH ENGLISH.

4. FOR FRENCH, IMPORTANCE OF NORWAY NOW SEEMS TO LIE IN OIL EXPLORATION. IN NOVEMBER, KOENIG VISITED PARIS ON TDY, BASICALLY TO MEET FRECH INDUSTRIALISTS INVOLVED IN NORWAY'S ROLE IN NORTH SEA OIL DEVELOPMENT. GEORGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USBERL00075
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760014-0602
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760156/aaaabxyb.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 PARIS 897
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHILIPPE KOENIG, NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO NORWAY
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, FR, (KOENIG, PHILIPPE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006